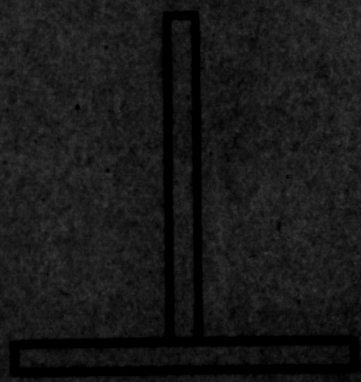


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MINUTES
OF THE
Twenty-first Annual Session
OF THE
**LEAF RIVER
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION**

1911



Houston Printing Co. Print, Houston

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MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
LEAF RIVER ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
RICHTON BAPTIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 14, 15 AND 16, 1911

OFFICERS.

N. R. KEETON, Moderator..... Leakesville, Miss.
W. J. PETERS, Clerk..... Lucedale, Miss.
J. C. ROBERTS, Treasurer..... R. 1, Richton, Miss.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

ELDER P. G. HILLMAN, Neely, Miss.
ELDER J. P. GRIFFIN, Pearce, Ala.
ELDER ALEXANDER BREELAND, McLain, Miss.
ELDER A. W. MORGAN, Brown, Miss.
ELDER R. B. LEE, McLain, Miss.
ELDER E. W. McLENDON, Richton, Miss.
ELDER R. W. BRYANT, Leakesville, Miss.
ELDER W. J. PETERS, Lucedale, Miss.
ELDER J. P. MERRITT, Hintonville, Miss.
ELDER J. E. CURRY, Richton, Miss.
ELDER C. C. JONES, Lucedale, Miss.
ELDER R. W. BROOKS, Almore, Ala.
ELDER A. J. CREED, Beaumont, Miss.
ELDER E. R. VAUGHN, Richton, Miss.
ELDER A. W. MORGAN, New Augusta, Miss.

LICENTIATES.

P. B. GREEN, _____ Richton, Miss.
E. E. ROBERTS, _____ Richton, Miss., R. 1
LUTHER TURNER, _____ Janet, Miss.
CURTIS MALLET, _____ Mullett, Miss.
PROCEEDINGS _____ ETAOI ETAlG

PROCEEDINGS

Richton, Miss., Oct. 14, 1911.

The Leaf River Baptist Association met this day in her 21st annual session with Richton Baptist Church. The body was called to order by the Moderator.

The Associational sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Curry, after which adjournment was taken for dinner.

The body convened after the dinner hour. After devotional exercises the Moderator called for correspondence.

The Moderator appointed Rev. W. J. Peters and Bro H. C. Brannen reading clerks.

The following letters from churches were read and delegates enrolled:

NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Washington—Alex Ball, Cal Byrd, F. K. Daughdrill.

Sweetwater—Syl. Turner, P. G. Hillman.

Seminary—C. M. Hinton, O. C. Palmer.

Cedar Grove—S. R. Breeland, C. L. Kittrell.

Bufkins Chapel—T. J. Finch.

New Hope—J. T. Vise, J. L. Cockcroft.

Sand Hill—H. B. Walley, J. C. Roberts.

Richton—J. S. Dees, J. E. Johnson.

Sincerity—Alex Miller.

Macedonia—P. M. Davis, H. C. Brannen.

Fellowship—C. P. Smith.

McLain—S. I. Green, J. Slay.

Pleasant Hill—L. K. Turner, D. C. Turner.

Rocky Cheek—W. H. Ubanks, M. W. Mills.

Kittrell—G. W. Douglass, N. D. Pipkins, Jno. Pipkins.

Friendship—W. F. Lott, C. T. Lott.

Leaksville—R. W. Bryant.

Leaf—Mrs. M. J. F. McLendon.

Zion—By Letter.

On motion the body went into the election of officers, which resulted as follows:

Moderator—N. R. Keeton.

Assistant Moderator—W. J. Peters.

Clerk—F. K. Daughdrill.

Treasurer—J. C. Roberts.

The following Brethren were elected to the General Association:

Revs. W. J. Peters and R. W. Bryant.

The following were elected to the State Convention:

Rev. R. W. Bryant, Rev. W. J. Peters and Bro. J. T.

Vise.

On motion the body adjourned to 7:30 o'clock tonight.

NIGHT SESSION.

Song service led by Prof. A. A. Hughes.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. R. W. Bryant.

The appointment of Committees was announced as follows:

Sunday Schools—N. R. Keeton, Luther Turner.

Missions—E. W. McLendon, Alex. Miller, Alex. Ball.

Sustentation—J. C. Roberts, P. G. Hillman.

State of Religion—A. J. Creed, H. C. Brannen, J. T.

Vise.

Pastoral Support—Luther Turner, J. E. Johnson.

Orphanage—W. J. Peters, P. M. Davis, Syl Turner.

Temperance—Mance Ball, C. P. Smith.

Periodicals and Publications—E. W. McLendon, W. J. Peters.

Woman's Work—Dr. Mobley, W. D. Pipkins.

Christian Education—Dr. P. B. Green, E. W. McLendon.

Music—R. W. Bryant, J. T. Vice.

Nominations—L. W. Walley, J. L. Cockcroft, S. R. Breeland.

PASTORIAL SUPPORT.

Report on Pastoral Support was received, after discussion was adopted as follows:

We your Committee on Pastoral Support beg leave to report as follows:

We need to pay more to our pastors. We should give in a systematic way. Business that is not conducted in a business way is a very poor business or soon will be. The Master said in his twelfth year that he "must be about His Father's business." We should give to the Pastor's support as God has prospered us. Brethren in many instances we find the church failing to rally to the support of the pastor in the promulgation of the Gospel. This should not be. They are entitled to our support. The best and most needed support is the support speaking a good word in their behalf, and giving them our prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

LUTHER TURNER,
J. E. JOHNSON.

On motion the body adjourned to meet at 9:30 Sunday morning.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

Bro. N. R. Keeton by request made a splendid and forceful talk at the close of the Sunday School.

Rev. R. W. Bryant preached at 11 o'clock, using the 14th verse of the 6th chapter of Galations. It was a splendid discourse and was well received by all present.

On account of the weather nothing was attended to in the afternoon.

Sunday night Rev. W. J. Peters preached to a large and attentive congregation using as his text Ephesians 2nd chapter and 20th verse.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. E. W. McLendon, after which prayer was offered by Rev. W. T. Smith. The Moderator announced the body ready for business. It was stated by the Moderator that the Clerk, Bro. Doughdrill, went home Saturday, being sick. On motion Rev. W. J. Peters was elected clerk.

On motion the Clerk was instructed if possible to have the minutes ready in six weeks.

On motion the Treasurer was allowed \$10.00 for his services.

Report on Woman's Work was read and adopted as follows:

We your Committee on Woman's Work beg leave to report as follows: The work of the Woman's Missionary Union is prompted by the love of God in the hearts of noble women.

Their work began in the early dawn of Christianity. They were the last at the cross and the first at the sepulchre.

Their work stands out like the mountain tops upon which the sun first rests. Christ gave them the first mission—to carry the news of His resurrection. Their's is a great work. Through their united efforts and prayers, hearts are reached, that otherwise could not be reached. They look

after the comforts of the home church. They contribute to Home, State and Foreign Missions, Ministerial Education, the Orphanage, Training School, Church building fund frontier boxes. As well as to the sick and poor at home. We hope that there will be organized in every church in the Leaf River Association, a Woman's Missionary Union. For literature on this great work, I refer you to Mrs. J. P. Culpepper, Vice-President, Newton, Mississippi.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. D. MOBLEY,

W. D. PIPKINS.

Report on Christian education was read and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Christian Education beg leave to submit the following:

First. By Christian Education, we mean the education that not only trains the mental faculties of man, but the physical and the spiritual also. We do not believe that education is salvation, but we do believe that the two are very closely associated together and that no Christian can do his best for God unless he has acquired a good mental training.

Second. That we are sorry to know that we as Baptists are failing to educate our own children in our schools, and though we are much stronger in numbers than the Methodist and Presbyterians still we have fewer schools in which to train our own children in our own doctrines.

Brethren, we have the whole truth, and still more; we have the positive command of our great Savior and Teacher Jesus Christ, to go and teach all nations and unless we teach this generation the principles of our church they will never know them, and we beg that you parents lend a helping hand by giving of your means together with your

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Brethren, we have the whole truth, and still more; we have the positive command of our great Savior and Teacher Jesus Christ, to go and teach all nations and unless we teach this generation the principles of our church they will never know them, and we beg that you parents lend a helping hand by giving of your means together with your

prayers. Let us give our boys and girls a chance to be educated in our schools which are namely: Mississippi College at Clinton and Clark Memorial College at Newton.

We cannot close this report without making an earnest plea unto every member of this association to remember *omnes quia magis dicitur et non dicitur per seipsum sumof uno* of the abundance that God has given you.

President W. W. Rivers of the Mississippi Woman's College at Hattiesburg was introduced and in few words explained the situation in regard to the College. The four Baptist Churches of Hattiesburg have elected trustees who have accepted a proposition from Mr. M. S. F. Latimer, the owner of a college property in Hattiesburg, worth about \$40,000. The city of Hattiesburg has raised \$10,000 for the purpose of equipping this splendid property. The school has opened with good prospects and South Mississippi is to be congratulated on having a Woman's Baptist school the equal of any in the state right in our midst.

Respectfully submitted,

P. B. GREEN,

E. W. McLENDON.

REPORT ON ORPHANAGE.

Report on Orphanage was read and adopted as follows:

We your Committee on Orphanage, beg leave to report as follows:

In the City of Jackson there is a home for the unfortunate fatherless children of our State. In this home there are now something over two hundred who are almost dependent upon the Baptist of our State. We urge the Baptist of Leaf River Association to do more than ever before for this institution.

We should be more liberal in our support. Your Committee recommends and urges this work in our churches, Sunday Schools and Associations. Let every one lift up our hearts unto God for His blessings upon fatherless and motherless children in the world, especially in our own State, always remembering those in our own Baptist Home and their faithful guardian Rev. J. R. Carter.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. PETERS,
P. M. DAVIS,
SYL. TURNER.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

Report on Publications was read and adopted as follows:

We your Committee on Publications beg leave to report as follows:

First. No Christian can render intelligent and acceptable service to God without being informed as to his duty.

Second. No Christian need go uninformed today. We should be "able to give a reason for the hope within us."

Your Committee therefore recommend a regular reading of God's Holy Word, for it is here that we get the foundation on which our faith is built.

We further recommend the Mississippi Baptist and the Baptist Record as worthy of our patronage. One or both of these papers should go into every Baptist home.

We also recommend the Home Field, of Atlanta, Ga., and the Foreign Mission Journal, of Richmond, Va., and the Sunday School literature, published by the Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. McLENDON,
W. J. PETERS.

Adjournment was taken for dinner.

The body assembled promptly at the hour agreed upon.

The body was called to order by the Moderator, and was led in prayer by Rev. E. W. McLendon.

A motion prevailed to limit the discussions to 15 minutes.

Report on Missions was read and adopted as follows:

We your Committee on Missions beg leave to report as follows:

We find from the reports from churches that very little is done for the cause of Missions. The command, "Go ye into all the World and Preach the Gospel to every Creature," is not receiving the attention it ought. We are a great people for baptisms and we ought to be as we are the only people who practice New Testament Baptism, yet the command, "Go preach" precedes the command "Baptize." No Christian, no Church of the Lord Jesus Christ is excused from either of these commands. It is the duty, the privilege and joy of every one to aid in spreading the Gospel. "The Lord loveth a Cheerful Giver," and therefore rewards greatly those who obey the Lord's commands in the right spirit.

Your committee believes the cause of the lack of interest to be the lack of information. Christian people, and especially Baptist Christians will do their duty if they know it.

The pastor who fails to enlighten his people on the cause of Missions, the Mission field, and the different departments of our Mission enterprise, falls far short of his duty, does an injustice to his churches and thereby cause them to lose rich rewards and great blessings from Heaven. We have not the space here to explain the three depart-

ments of our Mission Work, viz.: State, Home and Foreign. The pastors should teach these to the people.

Believing that what we need most is information about this important work, your committee recommends that the territory of this Association be divided into three districts, with a leader in each district and that the Fifth Sunday's be devoted to Mission rallies, so held that if possible each part of the district may have one rally a year.

We further recommend that the pastor urge the people to subscribe for the Home Field, published at Atlanta, Ga., and the Foreign Mission Journal at Richmond, Va. We further recommend that all mission collections be divided equally and forwarded to Rev. Jas. E. Chapman, of Newton, Miss., and to Dr. A. V. Rowe, Winona, Miss.

We also recommend that each church secure from two to five copies of the General Association minutes and the State Baptist Convention minutes, these can be had by writing to Jas. E. Chapman, Newton, Miss., and to Dr. A. V. Rowe, Winona, Miss.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. McLENDON,

A. S. MILLER,

E. M. BALL.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Report on State of Religion was read and adopted as follows:

We your Committee on State of Christianity, beg leave to report as follows:

We find nearly all the churches in the bounds of the Leaf River Association represented.

We find that many report Sunday Schools, but several do not. We find one church reports no increase, no

pastor, no time of meeting, and no prospects for a better condition.

Dear Brethren: We find the state or condition of Christianity to be far from the teaching of our Lord. inasmuch as men who profess to be God's servants, and men who occupy high places in the church are largely on compromising terms with the world on the subject of Christianity.

Now brethren, don't the word of God teach conclusively that Jesus built one church and that he was the head of the church, that God sent John, the Baptizer, that John's baptism was from heaven, that Jesus received it at the hands of John the Baptist, and the Apostles preached it. Don't we as Baptist take the position that according to the Bible the Baptist church is the church that Christ established. Listen at the last command from Jesus:

"All power in heaven and earth is given unto me. Go ye into all the world and preach my Gospel to every creature, mankind, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and lo! I am with you even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:19-20.

Brethren how can we convince the ungodly world of the truth of the teaching of Christ so long as we compromise with their teaching. Didn't Jesus say of them, they had a form of Godliness but denied the power thereof? Don't the Apostle Paul show conclusively where the law stands? That it is just and holy and good, but in it Paul found himself to be a sinner condemned. It's same law of God today and has for its subjects unregenerated humanity. The church of Christ is the same church today that Jesus established and promised for its security that the gates of hell should not overcome it.

Brethren, we must awake to a sense of our responsi-

bility before God. If the world receives the Gospel it must receive it from the church. Jesus said, we are the light of the world. That we have the keys of the kingdom of heaven with the promise that whatsoever we bind upon earth shall be bound in heaven and whatsoever we loose on earth shall be lost in heaven.

Well then, if Jesus built one church and he is the law-giver, then it is absolutely necessary to observe the law Jesus gave to the exclusion of everything else. We must deny all for Christ. "If any man willeth to do His will he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God or man."

Brethren, the lives we live should manifest Christ to the world. A new commandment I give unto you that ye love one another, by these things shall all men know that ye are my disciples. If ye have love one to another, John 13. This we must do, not to profess to do, but verily act it out in our own lives. If the world ever discovers the fact and is led to Christ by our influence. Jesus washed the disciples feet to show that as His servants we were equal. We need to preach the word of God and to exemplify it in our own lives. Not in profession, but in acts, things we do to one another. Inasmuch as ye did it to the least of these my servants ye did it unto Me, (to Christ) and inasmuch as ye did it not unto these my servants, ye did it not unto Me (Christ). We need men and women who will dare to do the things Christ commands, whether the world applauds or not.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. CREED,

J. T. VISE,

H. C. BRANNEN.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Report on Temperance was read and adopted as follows:

§ We your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows:

We are glad to report that interest in prohibition is still increasing. But brethren, how our hearts ache when we see our countrymen patronizing and supporting "Blind Tigers."

We recommend that all of our influence be to help the Lord pull down the strongholds of satan by letting Him use us as instruments of righteousness in enforcing the law in every instance where we know of its violations.

We recommend an enforcement of the law and save many widows heartaches and multiplied sorrows; that we sympathize in a real way with the mothers whose boys are on the downward road to destruction. Brethren, do not give up, you can help to sober the world by giving them your love, stand to your church and to your church vows, your mother and your country. We should obey the word and be temperate in all things.

Respectfully,

M. W. BALL,

C. P. SMITH.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

The report on Sunday School was read and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Sunday School, beg to report:

That we find a considerable increase in the Sunday School work and a growing interest. Though we find several of our churches that do not report any Sunday School or teaching service. We insist on every church having a

Sunday School and report same at our next Association. And we ask that the pastor of the churches stir them up, show them the importance of this teaching service in the church.

We believe that the greatest and only protection for our boys and girls is building around them a strong bulwark of God's eternal truth. Psalms 119-11, "They have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee."

Respectfully submitted,

N. R. KEETON,
LUTHER TURNER.

REPORT ON SUSTENTATION.

The report on Sustentation was read and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Sustentation beg leave to submit the following:

We have looked into this cause and find only two worn out ministers in our Association who are in need, both are old and getting very feeble.

We recommend and urge our churches to take up a collection for these two old and feeble brethren, namely: Bro. Pink-Hillman and Bro. J. P. Griffin, the latter now resides at Pierce, Alabama.

Respectfully submitted,

E. M. BALL,
P. G. HILLMAN.

REPORT ON MUSIC.

Report on Music was read and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee beg leave to report as follows:

Whereas, The interest in sacred music of our churches seems lacking to some degree.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of this committee to select and recommend for use in all the churches composing the Leaf River Association a uniform high grade song book. To recommend that each church purchase a sufficient number of song books recommended by the committee here appointed.

We also recommend that each church employ a competent Christian teacher of vocal music and have at least one school of ten days duration each year.

Respectfully submitted,

R. W. BRYANT,
J. T. VISE.

NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg leave to report as follows:

The next place of meeting—Sweetwater; Time, Saturday, before the third Sunday in October, 1912. Sermon to be preached by Rev. E. W. McLendon, alternate, Rev. R. W. Bryant.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to furnish Clerks of churches that compose this body with blank forms of Associational letters.

RESOLUTIONS.

We, the Leaf River Association do hereby tender our heartfelt thanks to the church and city of Richton for their kind hospitality shown us while in their midst. We also thank Bro. McLendon for his faithful service in seeing that the Association should be cared for.

Treasurer's report received and adopted as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance on hand Oct. 1910	\$28.65
Received from churches	43.00
Total	<u>\$71.65</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to Clerk for his fee	\$15.00
Paid to Treasurer for his fee	5.00
Paid for Printing Minutes	26.00
Paid for Associational letters	1.00
Postage and express	3.38
Stationary	25

Total	<u>\$50.63</u>
Balance on hand	<u>\$21.02</u>

MISSION REPORT.

Received from Churches	\$11.30
Sunday Collection	14.25
Received from Board at Association	17.85

Total	<u>\$43.40</u>
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DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid to Rev. W. J. Peters for Missionary work	\$43.40
Received and forwarded Foreign Mission	4.50
Received and forwarded for Orphanage	18.50

Report of Finance Committee read and adopted:

FINANCES.

Received for Associational purposes	\$ 47.10
For Associational Missions	34.50
For Foreign Missions	1.35
For Home Missions	2.50
For Orphanage	1.85
Balance on Hand	<u>21.02</u>

Total	<u>\$108.32</u>
Clark Memorial College	10.89

Total	<u>\$119.21</u>
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We have examined report and find same correct.

J. C. ROBERTS,
P. M. DAVIS,
J. T. VISE.

The Moderator appointed the following as chairmen of committees and requested them to have their reports ready next year when the Association convenes:

Sunday School—N. R. Keeton.

Missions—E. W. McLendon.

Sustentation—Alex Ball.

Orphanage—R. W. Bryant.

Periodicals and Publications—Luther Turner.

Temperance—M. W. Ball.

State of Religion—J. T. Vise.

Christian Education—P. B. Green.

Pastorial Support—J. E. Johnson.

Woman's Work—A. R. Shoemaker.

Music—W. J. Peters.

On motion the churches were divided into districts as follows, and each district is urged to hold a meeting on each fifth Sunday and Saturday before.

Rev. W. J. Peters elected Moderator of District One, and the following churches compose said district:

Shady Grove, Rocky Creek, New Hope, Zion, Merrell, Buffkins Chapel, Macedonia.

Rev. R. W. Bryant elected Moderator for District Two, and following churches compose said district:

Leakesville, Sweetwater, McLain, Cedar Grove, Fellowship, Sincerity, Washington, Leaf.

Rev. E. W. McLendon elected Moderator of District Three, and the following churches compose said district:

Richton, Sand Hill, Pleasant Hill, Seminary, Kittsell, Beaumont, Friendship.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Sweetwater—Jno. D. Turner.
 Leakesville—J. E. Miller.
 Rock Creek—C. E. Davis.
 New Hope—J. T. Vise.
 McLain—J. Slay.
 Sand Hill—J. C. Roberts.
 Fellowship—C. P. Smith.
 Cedar Grove—P. E. James.
 Sincerity—Alex Miller.
 Buffkins Chapel—Chas. Havard.
 Beaumont—B. C. Martin.
 Seminary—C. M. Hinton.
 Richton—J. E. Johnson.
 Merrill—J. C. Dorsett.
 Pleasant Hill—D. C. Turner.
 Kittrell—Roderick McDonald.
 Washington—Alex Ball.
 Zion—D. W. Horn.
 Friendship—W. F. Lott.
 Leaf—Rich McLeod.

Respectfully submitted,

L. W. WALLER,
 S. R. BREELAND,
 J. L. COCKCROFT.

The Moderator as per a resolution appointed the following committee on Music: R. W. Bryant, Luther Turner, Dr. P. B. Green, M. W. Ball, J. T. Vise.

On motion the body adjourned to meet with Sweetwater Baptist church on Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1912.

N. R. KEETON, Moderator.

W. J. PETERS, Clerk.

OUR DEAD.

Mrs. W. M. Hulbert, McLain, Miss.

Mrs. Julia Turner, Leakville, Miss.

Bro. Bailey, Mrs. Harriet Mallett, Mrs. Susan Harvard, Mullett, Miss.

R. G. Walley, Mrs. Pollie Holder, Richton, Miss.

Mrs. Christian C. Smith, Avera, Miss.

Mrs. E. L. Haminetta, Bro. M. A. Shepherd,

Mrs. Mattie Smith, Richton, Miss.

Mrs. Sarah Prentice, Johnathan, Miss.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be called the Leaf River Association of Missionary Baptists.

Art. 2. The object of this Association shall be to carry out our Lord's command, viz: "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." And especially to promote the Sunday School cause, to encourage a deeper interest in our denominational schools and literature; to encourage temperance; to use our best efforts to preach the Gospel to the destitute within our bounds, and to further any and all worthy benevolent enterprises.

Art. 3. The membership of this body shall consist of messengers elected annually by the churches belonging to this Association.

Art. 4. This Association shall meet annually at a time and place decided upon at the preceeding meeting.

Art. 5. It shall be the duty of each church belonging to this body, to elect and send annually three messengers, together with a letter containing such information as may be required to make up intelligent tables of statistics.

Art. 6. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot, and shall hold their office till their successors are elected; whose duties shall be as devolve upon such officers.

Art. 7. There shall be a Mission Board consisting of one member from each church belonging to this Association, such members to be appointed annually by the Moderator, and approved by the Association.

Art. 8. This Board shall meet while the Association is in session and elect its own chairman and secretary, and attend to any other business that may be necessary, and shall hold its meetings regularly thereafter on Saturday before the fifth Sunday during the year. This Board shall have power to transact all business relating to the objects for which this Association stands. Five or more shall be considered a quorum to transact business at any regular meeting.

Art. 9. This Association shall never exercise any ecclesiastical authority whatever over the churches.

Art. 10. Corresponding messengers from other Associations and Conventions of Missionary Baptist and all brethren who may be invited to seats with us are entitled to all the privileges of the Association except to vote.

Art. 11. Before the close of the meeting of the Association the Moderator shall appoint a principal and alternate to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next meeting.

Art. 12. All questions coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority vote, except that it shall require a two-thirds vote to exclude a church, or alter the constitution or articles of Faith; and any such alterations shall be made only after one year's notice thereof has been given, it being definitely understood that Article 1 shall ever remain in full force.

Art. 13. Every church belonging to this Association, is expected to contribute regularly to the work of this Association, the contributing church or individual having the right to specify the object to which the contribution should be applied.

Art. 14. Every sitting of this Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that the Holy Bible, written by men divinely inspired, and full of unmixed truth is a perfect rule of faith and practice.
2. We believe in one God—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
3. We believe that man, once holy, fell by voluntary transgression from that happy state and is now utterly void of holiness.
4. We believe that sinners are saved by grace alone.
5. We believe that men are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. We believe that salvation is free to all who will accept the Gospel.
7. We believe that except a man be renewed by the Holy Spirit, he is not qualified or prepared for the kingdom of Christ on earth or to enjoy his glory hereafter.
8. We believe that repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are duties of every one who hears the Gospel.
9. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, by which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners.
10. We believe that sanctification, begun in regeneration, and every progressive, is the process by which we are made to partake of God's holiness.
11. We believe in the preservation of the saints; that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.
12. We believe that God's law is the only, the eternal and unchangeable, rule of his church and moral government.

13. We believe that a church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, united in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances and obeying the laws of Christ and that its officers are pastors and deacons.

14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer, in water, by a properly qualified administrator, into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

15. We believe that only such as have been properly baptized and received in the fellowship of the regularly organized Baptist church, should partake of the Lord's Supper.

16. We believe that the Lord's day or Christian Sabbath should be observed and sacredly devoted to religious services.

17. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, and that the governors of states and nations should be obeyed, when the laws they seek to enforce are not in conflict with the Gospel.

18. We believe in the future resurrection of the dead.

19. We believe in the final judgment; and that in that day, the righteous, and wicked will be separated forever.

20. We believe that the righteous will be made happy forever in heaven, and the wicked miserable forever in hell.

GOSPEL ORDER.

1. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons who have given themselves to the Lord, and to one another in brotherly covenant to keep a Godly discipline agreeable to the New Testament.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the only law-giver of his church and is equally the right and privilege of each member thereof.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are gospel ordinances, appointed by Jesus Christ, and are to be continued in his church until his second coming.

4. We believe that immersion only is baptism, and that believers in Christ are the only proper subjects.

5. We believe that nothing but regularly baptized members have the right to partake of the Lord's Supper.

6. We believe it is the duty and privilege of all believers to make a public confession of their faith, to submit to the ordinances of the Gospel, and to give themselves as members of the visible church.

7. We believe it to be the duty of every church to expel from its commission every member that is immoral in conduct, or that holds doctrine contrary to the Scriptures.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the churches to which they respectively belong, and shall be styled the Leaf River Baptist Association.

2. Such delegates shall be members in good standing, and no member under church censure shall be allowed a seat in the Association.

3. They shall produce letters certifying to their appointment by their respective churches, and stating the number baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed by letter, excommunicated and deceased during the preceding associational year, with the total number of fellowship, and such other statistical matter as the Association may direct.

4. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually by a majority of the members present, said Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by ballot and shall fill their respective places, if present at the preceding Association, until a new election

takes place, and while in office shall discharge the duties ordinarily incident to those offices.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into this Association, they shall petition by letter and delegate, and if orthodox and orderly shall be received, and the Moderator shall recognize them by giving their delegates the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the body.

6. Each church shall have three delegates and no more, who shall be entitled to seats in the body and to vote.

All ministers of the same faith and order are invited to sit with us, and to aid us in counsel.

7. This Association shall neither answer nor debate any query on gospel doctrine, except it be to merely explain the articles of faith of this Association.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member, and shall be considered by the Association except it be withdrawn by the mover before discussion.

9. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

10. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken on each point separately.

11. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall confine himself to the subject properly in debate, cast no reflection on the Association or any member thereof, and shall not be interrupted while speaking.

12. No person shall speak more than three times on any subject without leave of the Association.

13. The Moderator shall have the privilege of speaking on any subject in debate, the chair being previously filled. He shall rise from his seat and put the question to the body.

14. The Moderator shall decide questions of order, but appeal from such decision may be taken to the whole body which shall decide without debate.

15. A majority of the members present shall be necessary to carry any motion or proposition, and the Moderator shall vote as other members when the vote is taken.

16. Committees shall be nominated by the Moderator, subject to the approval of the Association.

17. There shall be no talking or whispering while a brother is speaking.

18. No brother shall finally depart from the Association without leave of the body.

19. The names of the delegates shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over when necessary.

20. The minutes shall be read, carefully corrected and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association arises.

21. A motion for final adjournment shall be construed to involve the previous reading and adjustment of the minutes.

22. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

23. Immediately after the organization of the Association the Rules of Order shall be read from the chair.

24. The foregoing shall be subject to alteration or amendment at any regular meeting of the Association.

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STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POSTOFFICE	Baptisms	Received by Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Fello'ship	No. Minutes
Beaumont	W. J. Peters	F. P. Finch	Lucedale, Miss. R. 1	2	2		26			45	10
Buffkin's Chapel	R. W. Bryant	C. L. Kittrell	Johnathan, Miss.	6	8		2		1	85	15
Cedar Grove		J. E. Kittrell	Avera, Miss.				3		1	18	10
Fellowship	A. J. CREED	Henry Prine	Beaumont, Miss.	1	3				1	35	10
Kittrell	R. W. Bryant	Matt. Owens	Leakesville, Miss.	20	10	3				74	25
Leakesville	W. J. Peters	H. Alderman	Shipman, Miss.	18	2			1		76	20
Macedonia	W. J. Harvey	L. Fabra	McLain, Miss.							50	15
McLain	R. W. Bryant	J. C. Dorsett	Merrill, Miss.							6	6
Merrill	W. J. Peters	J. T. Vise	Ayricola, Miss.	6	7	5				75	15
New Hope	W. J. Peters	A. E. Turner	Janet, Miss.	10	7	1	5	1		83	20
Pleasant Hill	J. E. Curry	O. O. Bennett	Righton, Miss.	10	30	1	28	7	2	231	40
Righton	E. W. McLendon	Curtis Mallett	Mullett, Miss.	22	3		8		3	216	40
Rocky Creek	C. C. Jones	E. E. Roberts	Righton, Miss. Rt. 1	6	2				2	101	25
Sand Hill	E. W. McLendon	W. F. Lott	Beaumont, Miss.							6	6
Friendship	A. J. Creed	O. C. Palmer	Hintonville, Miss.	1				1		56	15
Seminary	J. P. Merritt	W. A. Merritt	Merrill, Miss.	4	4		3			12	12
Sincerity	Alex Breland	Jno. D. Turner	Leakesville, Miss.	12	2		5		1	162	35
Sweetwater	R. W. Brooks	F. K. Daughdrill	Neely, Miss.	5	6	1	4	1	1	160	30
Washington	J. E. Curry	J. C. Bryant	Lucedale, Miss. R. 1							16	8
Zion	W. J. Peters	Mrs. J. McLendon	Leaf, Miss.	22	18		5		1	34	20
Leaf	J. E. Curry										

13 28 9 12 67

Leaf J. E. Curry Mrs. J. McLendon Leaf, Miss. 22 18 1 5 1 34 20

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches	Orphanage	Missions Associational	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Printing Minutes	Other Purposes	State Missions	No. S. S.	No. Teachers	No. Pupils	Kind Literature	year from S. S. Baptisms this
Beaumont	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	1	4	30	S. Baptist	
Buffkin's Chapel		2 00		3 00	1 00	35 95		1	3	43		
Cedar Grove		3 00			1 50	25 15						
Fellowship		70	1 30									
Kittrell			20 00	20 00	2 00	252 20	10 00	1	7	75	S. Baptist	
Leaksville		4 45						1	3	62	S. Baptist	18
Macedonia		4 30						1	4	50	S. Baptist	
McLain												
Merrill		5 00										
New Hope												
Pleasant Hill						28 00	12 48	1	4	45	S. Baptist	5
Richton	11 70		25 00	25 25	2 50	28 00	4 75	1	5	44	S. Baptist	7
Rocky Creek		6 00		7 00	5 00	688 96	4 32	1	9	158	S. Baptist	
Sand Hill			3 00	5 00	5 75	189 50		1	3	75	S. Baptist	2
Seminary	1 85			1 35	3 00	20 00	3 00					
Sincerity					2 35	21 00						
Sweetwater	12 00	10 00			3 00	12 50						
Washington			2 50		5 00	73 00		2	3	68	Baptist	
Leaf			2 30		3 50	31 60	10 10	1	4	75	Baptist	5
Zion		2 00			1 00		3 50					
Friendship					50			1	4	75	Baptist	
								1	3	36	Baptist	